the determination concerning non-availability required by FAR 25.202(a)(3) will be made by the contracting officer for foreign construction material costing \$100,000 or less. Each determination will be factually supported in writing and included in the contract file.

- (b) Field facility contracting officers must request approval of nonavailability determinations from the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (93).
- (c) A copy of all determinations made in accordance with paragraph (a) of this section shall be forwarded to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Facilities (08) through the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (93).
- (d) Each solicitation will include the clause specified in 852.236–89. This provision reflects the general policy of not authorizing nondomestic materials on VA construction contracts.

[49 FR 12611, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 50 FR 794, Jan. 7, 1985; 52 FR 32012, Aug. 25, 1987; 54 FR 40064, Sept. 29, 1989]

825.203 Evaluating offers.

When a contracting officer believes that the requirement of the "Buy American Act" is impracticable as provided in FAR 25.202(a)(2), or that it would be advantageous to VA to deviate from the provisions of the Act as authorized by FAR 25.203, authority to consummate the contract will be requested. The request containing all the facts, including a comparison of all the bids or offers received and any other pertinent information upon which a determination may be made, will be submitted through the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (93), for approval by the Secretary. If approved, a report of the transaction will be prepared and transmitted by the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Facilities in accordance with Executive Order 10582, dated December 17, 1954, as amended.

[49 FR 12611, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 52 FR 32012, Aug. 25, 1987; 54 FR 40064, Sept. 29, 1989]

Subpart 825.3—Balance of Payments Program

825.302 Policy.

825.302-70 Deviations from the Balance of Payments Program.

When a contracting officer believes that the requirement of the "Balance of Payments Program" is not practicable as set forth in FAR 25.302 (b)(2) or (b)(3), he/she will request authority to consummate the contract through the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (93) for approval. Each request must be fully justified, containing all pertinent facts.

825.304 Excess and near-excess foreign currencies.

825.304-70 Determination of feasibility to use excess or near-excess foreign currency.

In accordance with FAR 25.304(c), contracting officers will submit requests for determination to utilize excess or near-excess foreign currencies to the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Acquisition and Materiel Management (93).

Subpart 825.6—Customs and Duties

825.603 Procedures.

825.603-70 Technical assistance.

Should the regulations contained in FAR 25.6 be inadequate to meet particular needs of a contracting officer in clearing items through customs and/or obtaining Duty Free Entry of goods, the nearest Regional Office of the United States Customs Service should be contacted for technical assistance. These offices are located as follows:

Regional Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service, 100 Summer St., Boston, Massachusetts 02110

Regional Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service, 99 S.E. 5th St., Miami, Florida 33131 Regional Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service, 585 Felipe St., Houston, Texas 77057

Regional Commissioner, U.S. Customs Service, 6 World Trade Center, New York, New York 10048